



# Maryland Agriculture Data

## Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW2502

September 16, 2002

### Vegetable Harvest Nearing Completion

Last week started out dry with some showers by week’s end, giving Maryland farmers an average of 6.2 **days suitable for fieldwork**, which they took advantage of to advance harvesting activities. **Vegetable harvest** is coming to a close for crops such as sweet corn, snap beans, tomatoes, and watermelons. **Sweet corn** is 91 percent harvested, 3 percent behind last year, and 4 percent behind the five year average. **Snap beans** are 90 percent harvested 3 percent more than last year, and 1 percent ahead of the average. Ninety percent of the **tomato** crop is harvested, 2 percent behind last year, and 5 percent behind the average. **Watermelons** are 87 percent harvested, matching last year, and 8 percent behind the average.

The drier part of the week allowed farmers to advance **corn** harvested for grain and silage. **Grain harvest** is 19 percent complete, 8 percent ahead of last year, and 6 percent ahead of the five year average. **Corn harvested for silage** is 80 percent complete, 26 percent ahead of last year, and 32 percent ahead of the average. Corn conditions are rated 1 percent excellent, 10 percent good, 15 percent fair, 27 percent poor, and 47 percent very poor.

The dry conditions caused soil moisture levels to decline. **Topsoil** for Maryland is rated 1 percent surplus, 38 percent adequate, 42 percent short, and 19 percent very short. Eighteen percent of **subsoil** is rated in adequate supply, 45 percent short, and 37 percent very short.

### MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 15, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	46	26	28	29
Corn, for grain	19	16	11	13
Corn, for silage	80	71	54	48
Lima beans, for processing only	50	44	74	- -
Snap beans	90	87	87	89
Sweet Corn	91	83	94	95
Tobacco	90	68	80	82
Tomatoes	90	80	92	95
Watermelons	87	81	87	95
Crop Progress:				
Corn, dent	89	83	89	82
Corn, mature	77	65	59	46
Sorghum, turning color	23	16	55	52
Soybeans, turning color	48	33	29	24
Soybeans, dropping leaves	29	22	7	9
Hay Harvested:				
Other hay, 3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting	82	80	86	79
Alfalfa, 4 <sup>th</sup> cutting	50	45	72	55

### CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 15, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	47	27	15	10	1
Sorghum	10	20	50	20	0
Soybeans	36	23	27	14	0
Range & Pasture	21	38	33	8	0

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